

Message Text

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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT:EVENING NEWS SUMMARY, AUGUST 8, 1978

1. WIRES:

AP (NO BYLINE): LEAD, ALEXANDRIA

THE SUMMIT MEETING BETWEEN EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT
AND ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN WILL BE HELD
WITH "NO CONDITIONS" IMPOSED BY EITHER SIDE, SECRETARY OF
STATE CYRUS R. VANCE SAID TUESDAY NIGHT.

OTHER POINTS:

--"THE OBJECTIVE IS TO TRY AND ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR A
PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST," VANCE SAID.

--VANCE: THAT SADAT, BEGIN AGREED TO SIT DOWN TOGETHER
WITH PRESIDENT CARTER "GIVES ME HOPE" FOR EVENTUAL SETTLE-
MENT.

--VANCE, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, SAID SUMMIT BE,NG HELD
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WITHOUT CONDITIONS.

UPI--ALVIN WEBB, ALEXANDRIA

UPI (CONT.)

LEAD: HANDWRITTEN, PERSONAL LETTERS FROM PRESIDENT CARTER

TO ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN AND EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT SET UP THE FORTHCOMING SUMMIT CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE, DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID TUESDAY.

OTHER POINTS:

--SEC STATE VANCE PERSONALLY DELIVERED LETTERS OF INVITATION WRITTEN BY CARTER--FIRST TO BEGIN AT HIS JERUSALEM OFFICE SUNDAY, SECOND DURING STROLL MONDAY AT SADAT'S SUMMER HOME.

--CARTER ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON TUESDAY INVITATIONS ;AD BEEN ACCEPTED; HE WOULD MEET BEGIN, SADAT AT CAMP DAVID, SEPTEMBER 5, TO SEEK WAYS TO REVITALIZE PEACE INITIATIVE.

--VANCE JOINED KAMEL TUESDAY EVENING AT "IFTAR", MOSLEM MEAL AFTER SUNDOWN THAT BREAKS FASTING DURING RAMADAN.

--IT WAS NOT A MATTER OF SIMPLY DELIVERING LETTERS. SADAT INITIALLY ADVISED BY OWN FOREIGN MINISTRY TO REJECT INVITATION BECAUSE ISRAEL HAD NOT RELENDED.

BUT SADAT GAVE IN, AGREED TO TRIPARTITE SUMMIT WHEN HE CAME UNDER STRONG, IF POLITE, PRESSURE FROM WASHINGTON. HE WAS TOLD THIS WAS ONLY WAY COULD LEND A MAJOR HAND.

SOURCES SAID IT WAS WASHINGTON PRESSURE, NOT ANYTHING VANCE BROUGHT FROM JERUSALEM, THAT PERSUADED SADAT.

IN FACT, VANCE BROUGHT NOTHING BUT CARTER LETTER.

ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS SAID VANCE DID NOT EVEN TRY TO GET BEGIN TO CHANGE POSITION ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

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REUTERS:

BAGAT BADIE--ALEXANDRIA, AUGUST 8

EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MOHAMMED IBRAHIM KAMEL TODAY HAILED NEXT MONTH'S U.S. SPONSORED SUMMIT BETWEEN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT AND ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN AS THE BEGINNING OF ACTIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS.

OTHER POINTS:

--KAMEL TOLD REUTERS EGYPT HAD BEEN AIMING FOR JUST SUCH A MOVE.

--"PRESIDENT CARTER'S INVITATION MARKS BEGINNING OF ACTIVE AMERICAN PARTICIPATION AT HIGHEST LEVEL IN PEACE PROCESS", KAMEL SAID. ADDING, "PRESIDENT IS THROWING HIS WEIGHT BEHIND THE PEACE TALKS. IF IT (THE MEETING) FAILS, AMERICA WILL HAVE TO CONTRIBUTE ITS OWN IDEAS."

--EGYPT REPEATEDLY HAS CALLED ON U.S. TO BE FULL PARTNER

REUTERS (CONT)

IN PEACE TALKS AND PRESENT OWN PROPOSALS.

--WE HAVE NO CONDITIONS TO MAKE." KAMEL SAID. "WE CALL FOR OUR BASIC RIGHTS ONLY--SOVEREIGNTY AND RESTORATION OF TERRITORIES"

--CARTER'S PERSONAL INITIATIVE IN CALLING SUMMIT APPARENTLY SWAYED SADAT JUST AS HE RESPONDED TO APPEAL BY CARTER TO MEET VANCE IN ENGLAND LAST MONTH.

--SHORTLY BEFORE FINAL ROUND OF TALKS, VANCE TOLD REPORTERS NEITHER EGYPT NOR ISRAEL SET ANY CONDITIONS ON ATTENDING CAMP DAVID TALKS. "THE VERY FACT THAT TWO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ARE MEETING TOGETHER GIVES US HOPE FOR PROGRESS," HE ADDED.

--WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT CAPPED A MIDDLE EAST MISSION BY UNCLASSIFIED

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VANCE THAT BEGAN AS A LAST-DITCH EFFORT.

--AN ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN IN WASHINGTON CAUTIONED THAT TALKS WERE NOT EXPECTED TO PRODUCE A SETTLEMENT. BUT U.S. OFFICIALS HERE NOTED THAT MEETING AT LEAST WOULD BRING EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI LEADERS FACE TO FACE FOR FIRST TIME SINCE LAST DECEMBER.

--A MOOD OF JUBILATION GREW IN AMERICAN CAMP THIS MORNING AFTER LAST NIGHT'S TWO-HOUR MEETING BETWEEN MR. VANCE AND MR. SADAT.

--STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN 'ODDING CARTER DESCRIBED IT AS A GOOD SESSION BUT HE AND OTHER U.S. OFFICIALS AVOIDED SAYING ANYTHING THAT WOULD UPSTAGE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT.

--THERE WERE HINTS DURING TRIP THAT A SUMMIT MEETING AMONG TRIO WAS POSSIBLE. BUT IT WAS DESCRIBED AS ONLY ONE OF A NUMBER OF OPTIONS. OTHERS INCLUDED FURTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS OR A POSSIBLE REVIVAL OF SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY.

--U.S. OFFICIALS HERE WOULD NOT SAY WHETHER CARTER WOULD PRESENT AMERICAN PROPOSALS AT CAMP DAVID OR WHETHER UNITED STATES WOULD CONTINUE TO ACT ONLY AS A MEDIATOR AND PRESS TWO SIDES TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATING DIRECTLY.

WIRE NIGHTLEADS (SLUGGED URGENT)

AP - BARRY SCHWEID, AP, ALEXANDRIA

SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE DECLARED TONIGHT THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL BE A "FULL PARTNER" IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

OTHER POINTS:

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--"WE WILL FEEL FREE TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS," AT CAMP DAVID
SUMMIT VANCE SAID AT A NEWS CONFERENCE.
AP (CONT.)

--"I THINK TIME IS IMPORTANT," VANCE SAID. "I THINK IT IS

IMPORTANT THAT WE NOT LET THINGS DRIFT, THAT WE GET MOMENT-
UM GOING AGAIN."

--VANCE'S ASSERTION THAT U.S. WAS NOW A "FULL PARTNER"
APPEARED TO REPRESENT A CONCESSION TO SADAT.

--HOWEVER, VANCE SAID "THE ISRAELIS ARE DELIGHTED WITH THE
ROLE THE UNITED STATES IS PLAYING."

--HE SAID CARTER'S OBJECTIVE IN INVITING BEGIN, SADAT TO
CAMP DAVID "WILL BE TO SEARCH FOR A FRAMEWORK, FOR A JUST
AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THAT IS THE COURSE
THAT ALL OF US DESIRE."

--VANCE AVOIDED A DIRECT RESPONSE ON WHETHER U.S. WOULD
PRESENT "AN AMERICAN PLAN" FOR A SETTLEMENT. VANCE SAID IT
WAS UP TO PARTIES THEMSELVES TO FIND AN AGREEMENT, BUT U.S.
WILL BE AT THEIR SIDES "WHEN IT SEES OBSTACLES IN THE ROAD."

REUTERS - UNSIGNED, ALEXANDRIA

PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT TODAY HAILED PRESIDENT CARTER'S
DECISION TO PRESIDE OVER A SUMMIT MEETING BETWEEN HIM AND
PRIME MINISTER MENACHEM BEGIN AS A NEW PAGE IN THE MIDDLE
EAST PEACE PROCESS.

OTHER POINTS:

--HE CALLED ON ALL SIDES TO LET BYGONES BE BYGONES. SADAT,
SPEAKING AT A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE WITH VANCE, SAID,"LET
US NOT LOOK BACK."

--SADAT SAID THAT AFTER READING A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM
CARTER DELIVERED TO HIM BY VANCE HE HAD DECIDED TO FIND A
FRAMEWORK FOR PEACE.

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NIGHT ADD TO WEBB'S PIECE (SEE FOREGOING)

ADDITIONAL POINTS:

--CAIRO RADIO LATER QUOTED SADAT AS SAYING IT WAS THE
STRENGTH OF CARTER'S PERSONAL APPEAL THAT MOVED HIM TO

ACCEPT INVITATION TO ATTEND SUMMIT.

-SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE PRESS CARTER TO BECOME EVEN MORE INVOLVED IN PEACE EFFORT BY ASSUMING ROLE OF "FULL PARTNER" IN NEGOTIATIONS.

--"WHAT I AM GOING TO ASK AT CAMP DAVID IS THAT CARTER, ON BEHALF OF U.S. SHOULD PLAY ROLE OF FULL PARTNER," SADAT WAS QUOTED AS SAYING.

2. NETWORKS

CBS - NO CORRESPONDENT'S REPORT

FILM CLIPS OF BEGIN, SADAT REACTIONS TO SUMMIT ANNOUNCEMENT.

NBC - VALERIANI, ALEXANDRIA

SADAT SURPRISED VANCE HERE WITH HIS QUICK ACCEPTANCE OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S INVITATION TO A CAMP DAVID SUMMIT. TONIGHT, SADAT AND VANCE HELD A JOINT NEWS CONFERENCE ON THE SUMMIT.

SADAT:"ALL I ASK IN CAMP DAVID IS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER, ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES, ACTS AS A FULL PARTNER."

VANCE: "AS PRESIDENT SADAT HAS SAID, WE ARE PREPARED TO PLAY A ROLE AS A FULL PARTNER. WE SEEK THE SAME OBJECTIVES, WE UNCLASSIFIED

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SEEK PEACE--WE SEEK JUST AND LASTING PEACE."

SADAT'S INTERPRETATION OF A FULL PARTNER'S ROLE FOR THE UNITED STATES CERTAINLY DIFFERS FROM BEGIN'S INTERPRETATION. FACT THAT VANCE IS NOW USING THE SAME PHRASE INDICATES STRONGLY THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WILL BE LAYING DOWN AMERICAN PROPOSALS AT CAMP DAVID. AND THAT'S NOT LIKELY TO BE WELCOME NEWS IN ISRAEL.

ABC - BARRIE DUNSMORE, ALEXANDRIA

SUMMIT DEAL SEALED LAST NIGHT. AT NEWS CONFERENCE, SADAT EXPLAINED HIS ACCEPTANCE AND FOR FIRST TIME, VANCE PICKED UP THE MESSAGE THAT U.S. WOULD BE FULL PARTNER IN NEGOTIATIONS.

(VANCE CLIP SHOWN)

IT'S REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT SADAT HAD TO BE GIVEN SOME ENTICEMENT TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO NEGOTIATE ONCE AGAIN DIRECTLY WITH BEGIN. WHAT SEEMS CLEAR IS THAT ENTICEMENT IS U.S. PROMISE TO ACT AS FULL PARTNER; THAT MEANS MUCH OF WHAT WILL BE NEGOTIATED AT CAMP DAVID WILL BE AMERICAN

IDEAS AND PERHAPS EVEN A FULL AMERICAN PLAN. THAT'S
EXACTLY WHAT SADAT'S BEEN ASKING FOR. CHRISTOPHER

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